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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/163,259 09/29/98 ADAMS F 4167-13

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PM82/0818

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EXAMINER

MCALLISTER, S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3652

17

DATE MAILED:

08/18/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/163,259

Applicant(s)
Adams et al

Examiner
Steven B. McAllister

Group Art Unit
3652



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jun 19, 2000

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) 7 and 9-18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8, and 19 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aulanko et al (EP0710618) in view of Pearson (1035230).

Aulanko et al disclose a hoistway (col. 2, lines 58-9) with walls (col. 3, lines 50-55); an elevator car 1; a counterweight 2; a drive motor 6 between the elevator car and side wall which couples the car and counterweight via the rope 3. Aulanko et al do not disclose a flat drive and suspension rope. Pearson discloses a flat drive and suspension rope 12. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Aulanko et al by using flat rope of Pearson in order to produce a large friction surface.

3. Claims 2-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aulanko et al in view of Pearson as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Olsen.

In addition to all elements of claim 1, Aulanko et al in view of Pearson discloses first and second columns 11, 11a; and a support member between them 20. Aulanko et al in view of Gale do not disclose that the columns are on opposite side of the hoistway. Olsen disclose columns 28

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on opposite sides of the hoistway. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to further modify the columns of Aulanko et al by moving them to opposite sides of the shaft as taught by Olsen in order to facilitate use of the columns for guide both the elevator car and counterweight, thereby providing a more compact structure and saving on the cost of the extra beam required by Aulanko et al.

As to claim 3, Aulanko et al disclose a counterweight 2 below the drive sheave 7 and between the car 1 and the wall.

As to claims 4 and 5, Aulanko et al disclose counterweight sheave 9 on top of the counterweight and two elevator sheaves 4 under the elevator, the elevator rope having both ends 13, 14 terminated in the top portion of the hoistway, the rope extending down from the first end 13, looping the counterweight sheave, going up and looping the drive sheave 7, going down under the car and looping each car sheave and terminating at the second end 14.

As to claim 6, Aulanko et al disclose the first end 13 terminated to the support member 20 (see Fig. 1).

As to claim 8, Olsen discloses that the first and second columns have first and second vertical guide members 36 corresponding to the path of the elevator; and that the elevator has opposing surfaces 35 shaped to be moveably engageable with the elevator guide surfaces.

4. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pearson (1,035,230) in view of Aulanko et al (EP 0710618).


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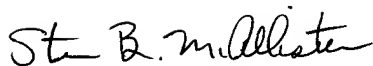
Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6, 8, and 19 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven B. McAllister whose telephone number is (703) 308-7052.


DEAN J. KRAMER
PRIMARY EXAMINER



Steven B. McAllister

August 17, 2000